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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Hiroshi YOSHIDA, et al.

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Assistant Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.55 and the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 119, attached hereto is a certified copy of the priority document, Japanese Patent Application No. 11-373997 filed December 28, 1999.

It is respectfully requested that applicant be granted the benefit of the filing date of the foreign application and that receipt of this priority document be acknowledged in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald R. Snider".

Ronald R. Snider
Reg. No. 24,962

Date: April 30, 2001

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